

CLAIMS

1. A material containing coding information is characterized in that: an information presenting substance consisting mainly of at least one element or the compound thereof and assigned with a first coding information and a coding information storing means for storing a second coding information which is equal to or different from the first coding information.

2. The material containing coding information as recited in claim 1, wherein the information presenting substance is contained in the coding information storing means on the material.

3. The material containing coding information as recited in claim 1 or 2, wherein the coding information storing means is an integrated circuit memory.

4. An coding information storage apparatus characterized by the information presenting substance consisting mainly of at least one element or the compound thereof and assigned with a first coding information and a second coding information which is equal to or different from the first coding information.

5. A method of identifying a material containing coding information which includes an information presenting substance consisting mainly of at least one element or the compound thereof

and assigned with the first coding information and the coding information storing means for storing the second coding information which is equal to or different from the first coding information, comprising the steps of:

exposing the material containing coding information to a predetermined wavelength range of electromagnetic wave, detecting fluorescent light emitted from the information presenting substance on the material when exposed to the electromagnetic wave, specifying the first coding information from the fluorescent light emitted from the information presenting substance, and reading the second coding information from the coding information storing means; and

identifying the material containing coding information with reference to the first coding information from the information presenting substance and the second coding information from the coding information storing means.

6. A system for identifying the material containing coding information which includes an information presenting substance consisting at least one element or the compound thereof and assigned with the first coding information and the coding information storing means for storing the second coding information which is equal to or different from the first coding information, comprising:

a reference table storing means for storing a reference table which determines the relationship between the first coding information and the information presenting substance;

a detecting means for detecting fluorescent light emitted

from the information presenting substance on the material containing coding information which exposed to a predetermined wavelength range of electromagnetic wave;

an information presenting substance information specifying means for specifying information of the information presenting substance from the fluorescent light emitted from the information presenting substance and detected by the detecting means;

a coding information specifying means for specifying the first coding information corresponding to the information of the information presenting substance specified by the information presenting substance specifying means through examining the reference table storing means;

a coding information reading means for retrieving the second coding information from the coding information storing means; and

an identifying means for identifying the material containing coding information from a combination of the first coding information specified by the coding information specifying means and the second coding information retrieved by the coding information reading means.